

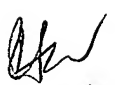


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December 27, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
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**Art Unit 1634**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 10/073,260; Filed: February 13, 2002  
For: **Methods and Compositions for Isolation of Biological Macromolecules**  
Inventors: Simms *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0942.5170001/RWE/ALS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038;
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1) Form PTO/SB/22;
3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
4. One (1) return postcard.


It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
December 27, 2004  
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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